(b) The percentage of production of vanaspati during the last three years cooking oils and fats is as under :

(in Lakh MTs)

Oil-year (Nov-Oct.)	Production of vanaspati	Total *availability of cooking oils and fats.	% of vanaspati to total cooking oils and fats.
1986-87 . . .	9.23	48.45	19.05
1987-88	9.86	55.86	17.65
1988-89	9.70	53.23	18.22

*It includes domestic oils and imported vegetable oils.

(c) The total production of edible grade rice bran oil in the country and its consumption in the manufacture of vanaspati are as under :-

(Qty. in lakh MTs)

Oil-Year (Nov-Oct.)	Total production* of edible grade ricebran oil	Consumption of edible grade ricebran oil in the manufacture of vanaspati	Consumption by general public after refining.
1986-87	1.26	1.18	0.08
1987-88	1.46	1.41	0.05
1988-89	1.58	1.49	0.09

(*) Figures based on the number of SED returns received in the Directorate.

Department of Farm Processing

1133. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a department of Farm Processing ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Water supply in Mandir Marg area

1134. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there is a unprecedented scarcity of water in Sector D, Mandir Marg, New Delhi ;

(b) whether Government are also aware that for want of water, the overhead water tanks in D, Sector are cracking ;

(c) if so, the steps taken to augment water supply in the said area ; and

(d) the measures contemplated for filling the overhead water tanks and to ensure equal distribution of water so that residents of fourth floor also get equal quantity of water ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) No ranking of overhead water tanks has been observed.

(c) and (d) The water supply in the area is expected to improve with the provision of an additional connection, for which sanction has been issued by the NDMC and the work for the same is likely to be completed by this month end. In addition to a few tubewells already being operated by the CPWD in the area to augment the supply from the NDMC, another tubewell is being drilled by the former in Alvert Square to increase the water supply to Sector C and D. To ensure supply of water to those living on top floors, water is being distributed through over head tanks.

Unsafe balconies at Mandir Marg

1135. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in D-8 Sector, Mandir Marg, balconies have become unsafe :

(b) whether it is also a fact that in D Sector despite lodging complaints these are not being attended to within the due time ;

(c) the number of civil complaints lodged at D' Sector enquiry for the last one month ; and

(d) the steps taken for their compliance ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Out of 633 complaints received during the last one month, 588 have been attended to and the remaining ones will be attended to during this month.

Workers' agitation for minimum wages

1136. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the agitation among the workers of Delhi Le Meridien Hotel Shahibabad and Ghaziabad Industrial workers demanding for Rs. 1050 as minimum wage, housing and other benefits ; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) According to information received from the Delhi Administration, the Hotel Le Meridien Employees Union had submitted a charter of demands which included fixation of minimum wages at Rs. 1200/- per month at Consumer Price Index of 800 (1960–100), house rent allowance and night allowance etc.. The Delhi Administration has referred the matter for adjudication on 10-5-1990.

According to information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, the Engineering Kamgar Union, Ghaziabad had submitted a charter of demands on 5-5-1990 regarding minimum wages for workers employed in Engineering establishments employing less than 50 persons should not be less than Rs. 1250/- at All India Consumer Price Index (AICPI) of 800 points and in establishments employing more than 50 persons should not get less than Rs. 750/- at AICPI of 500 points.

Efforts are being made by the State Government to arrive at an agreement in a tripartite forum regarding increase in the wages of workers engaged in engineering establishments.

Strike by employees of Le Meridien Hotel, Delhi

1137. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the strike by the "Le Meridien Hotel" employees in New Delhi ;

(b) if so, the date since when the strike is going on ;

(c) what are the demands ; and